(c) the problems cited by the Education Ministers in each State and Union Territory; and

(d) the Central Sector Plan drawn up to overcome those problems?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The issues discussed therein were— Problem of dropouts, Decentralisation of Educational Management, Resource Mobilisation, Implementation of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Operation Blackboard (OB), Non-Formal Education (NFE) and District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) and School Nutrition Programme.

(c) and (d) It was jointly decided to formulate area specific action plans to increase enrolment and reduce dropout, particularly among girls and disadvantaged sections, to extend strong support to educational decentralisation of sort out systemic problems affecting implementation of OB, NFE and DIETs, and involve Village Education Committees, to make monitoring and evaluation more systematic, to explore possibilities of using satellite transponder for teacher training in distance mode, to widely disseminate information on tax concessions extended to contributions to the Zilla Saksharata Samitis, for primary and adult education in the budget 1995-96, to organise pension Adalats to settle pension problems of Teachers expeditiously, to launch National Elementary Education Mission and to prepare a special package on Education for the North-East within the existing schemes.

Study centres of Open University

4144. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a need to set up the study centres of the Open University in every State;

(b) whether such centres are proposed to be set up in the rural areas;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in the that regard; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUARI SELJA): (a) to (d) In the Open University System, Study Centres are established at locations which are easily accessible from the surrounding rural areas. These Centres have to be established within existing educational institutions so that infrastructural facilities and services of part time teaching and other staff are available. This arrangement caters better to the requirements of students from rural areas as even if suitable locations are found in particular rural areas, the generally difficult accessibility of such areas would tend to cause serious inconvenience to rural students from areas located at some distance from such centres.

At present, the Indira Gandhi National Open University has 245 Study Centres covering every state. The University is willing to establish more Study Centres having regard to the suitability and merits of such cases.

Grant to Inter State Board for Anglo-Indian Education

4145. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grant given by the Central Government to Inter State Board for Anglo-Indian Education during the last three years; year-wise; and

(b) the aims and objects of Inter State Board for Anglo-Indian Education?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The amount of